

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 002872

42-40

ORIGIN EA-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-14 SP-02 EB-03 INR-05 L-01 RSC-01

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DRAFTED BY:EA:PCHABIB

APPROVED BY:EA:PCHABIB

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 002872

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, VS

SUBJECT: AIR SERVICES CONTRACT

FOR AMBASSADOR MARTIN FROM HABIB

REF: SAIGON 129

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR REQUEST NO FURTHER ACTION
WILL BE TAKEN ON AIR SERVICES CONTRACT UNTIL YOU CAN
EXPLORE MATTER FURTHER.

2. IF PRIME MINISTER DOES NOT FAVOR ALLOWING PRIVATE
AMERICAN COMPANIES TO OPERATE IN VIET-NAM, I PRESUME
HE PROPOSES THAT AIR VIETNAM DO THE JOB. AS YOU KNOW
NEITHER AID NOR CIA ARE PREPARED TO TURN THE JOB OVER
TO AIR VIETNAM ALONE. DESPITE THE CLAIMS FOR AIR
VIETNAM THEY DO NOT ACCEPT THAT AIRLINE'S COMPETENCE
TO DO WHAT IS NECESSARY. IF IT THEN TURNS OUT THAT A
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JOINT VENTURE WITH AIR VIETNAM IS WHAT IS CALLED FOR,

GVN SHOULD SO STATE FOR OUR CONSIDERATION, AND FOR THE
U.S. AIR SERVICE COMPANIES TO CONSIDER AS WELL. AS
I HAVE UNDERSTOOD IT THERE IS WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT
SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT BY AT LEAST SOME OF THE INTERESTED
COMPANIES. IN ANY CASE, AID'S RFP WOULD, AS WE HAVE
INDICATED, REQUIRE THAT BIDDING COMPANIES PRESENT
EVIDENCE OF GVN AUTHORIZATION TO OPERATE IN SOUTH VIET-
NAM.

3. PRIME MINISTER'S IMPLIED SLUR OF PARKER IS A LOW
BLOW THAT I KNOW YOU WILL NOT LET PASS WITHOUT
CORRECTION. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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